

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 15-0942V

Filed: March 21, 2016

UNPUBLISHED

LEIGHA ROMIG,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Tetanus-Diphtheria-acellular Pertussis
("Tdap") Vaccine; Shoulder Injury
Related to Vaccine Administration
("SIRVA"); Special Processing Unit
("SPU")

*Isaiah R. Kalinowski, Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA, Washington, DC, for petitioner.
Michael P. Milmoie, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On August 28, 2015, Ms. Romig filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleged that she received a Tetanus-Diphtheria-acellular Pertussis ("Tdap") vaccine on August 2, 2014, and thereafter suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration ("SIRVA"). Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On December 1, 2015, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation. On March 21, 2016, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") stating petitioner should be awarded \$82,000.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represents that petitioner agrees with the proffered award.³

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012)(Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all "\$" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

³ Petitioner also filed an "Acceptance of Proffer" on March 21, 2016.

Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$82,000.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Leigha Romig.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.⁴

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey
Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master

⁴ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

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No. 15-942V
Chief Special Master Dorsey
ECF

RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

I. Compensation for Vaccine Injury-Related Items

On December 1, 2015, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding that petitioner was entitled to vaccine compensation for her Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration. Respondent proffers, based on the evidence of record, that petitioner should be awarded \$82,000. This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below, and requests that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following:¹

- A. A lump sum payment of \$82,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Leigha Romig. This amount accounts for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner would be entitled.

¹ Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, respondent reserves the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future pain and suffering, and future lost wages.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 21, 2016